WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H is a program for boys and girls ages 5-18. Through 4-H, youth have fun while learning new skills and making new friends. Through 4-H Clubs, projects, presentations, activities and events, youth acquire knowledge and skills to last a lifetime.

4-H provides excellent opportunities for parents to spend quality time with children. Some parents volunteer to help with club activities and many families turn 4-H events into family outings.

THE 4-H CLUB

4-H Clubs usually meet once a month. A typical meeting consists of an educational program, business discussion, and recreation. The program should be a hands-on experience and may include tours, special interest programs, picnics/parties, or presentations by 4-H’ers. 4-H’ers, volunteer leaders and parents determine what happens in a club and each club develops a yearly calendar. Clubs are led by adult volunteer leaders.

No club in your community?...For information on starting a club in your neighborhood, call North Carolina Cooperative Extension at 828-0465-8240 or email: donna_mull@ncsu.edu.
4-H Clubs Available:

Community 4-H Clubs

*Balls Creek 4-H Club—Meets 1st Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Balls Creek Lions Club Building which is located across from Balls Creek Elementary School. Leaders: Art & Erica Holdscwla, 704-489-2490 & Tabitha Wheeler, 828-466-2240.

*Brown Penn 4-H—Meets twice a month on Fridays, 5:30-6:30 pm. 4-H programs on a variety of topics offered. Contact: Von Curry, Ridgeview Recreation Center 828-324-8007.

*First Newton Helping Hands—Meets first Sunday of each month at First United Methodist Church in Newton. The club consist of youth ages 10 & older. The club is involved in different community service project. Club members build leadership skills by leading a club program on a topic of their choice during monthly meeting. Leader: Lisa Johnson, 381-9337.

*Maiden Explorers—Meets at Maiden Branch Library from 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. on 2nd Saturday of the month. Leader: Amy Wilson, 704-325-0343.

*Startown 4-H Club—New community club for youth ages 5 and older, beginning in May 2012. Meets Friday evenings at Gateway Baptist Church. Leaders: Christy Findley & Kimberly Loftin.

*Wesley Chapel Wild Cats—Meets on the 4th Friday at Wesley Chapel Church. Programs vary monthly based on interests of the families. Leader: Deidre Hicks, 322-6876

*Whiz Kids 4-H Club—Family oriented club for youth in 1st- 6th grades. The club meets on the 1st Friday evening of the month at 6:30 p.m. at St. Luke’s Methodist in Hickory. Traditional community club with different hand-on programs each month. Leader: Dana Messick, 828-303-9451 or dlmessick4@charter.net.

Special Interest 4-H Clubs

*Livestock Club—Meets the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Members participate in raising & showing animals & livestock judging. Contact: Susie Devine, 466-0130.

*Cross Road Riders—For children who ride or just want to learn more about horse topics. Hands-on activities with the horses each month. Meets 3rd Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. at leader’s home in Tuttle School area. Leader: Rebecca Sharp, 428-0671. *$25 Annual Membership Fee required.

*Mad Scientist 4-H Club organized in 2012. Youth ages 5 & older learn about different Science topics with hands-on programs each month. Meets at Sherrills Ford Branch Library, one Friday afternoon a month. Leader: Tracy Guenther 704-999-9272.

*Amazing Circuits Electric Club—Meets monthly on a Saturday at 10a.m. at the Extension Center. Youth are working through the Electric Project Book & exploring electric/energy topics. Leaders: Phillip Beard, 428-3662 & Rob McCoy, 241-9125.

*Catawba County Youth Council—Leadership & citizenship group for selected high school students. Meets the 3rd Tues., 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Center. Advisor: Donna Mull, 465-8240.

*4-H Junior Rangers—Sponsored by Riverbend Park with Park Rangers (Lori & Alisha) serving as club leaders. Meets on the 3rd Monday, 6p.m. at Riverbend Park Educational Building. Members learn about wildlife & nature topics. Call Riverbend Park, 256-9157.

*Happy Hoppers 4-H Club—Meets the 3rd Monday of each month at the Agriculture Resources Center in Newton at 6:30. Leaders: Rob & Susan Singleton, (828) 446-7535.